

The present invention provides a system and method for managing a plurality of local lists of a single user utilizing a compact user-carried smart card including a microprocessor and a memory storing a master list configured for synchronizing with each local list. Specification, page 2, lines 5-8. Claim 1 recites a system for managing a plurality of local lists of a single user. The plurality of local lists is located at a plurality of remote appliances. Each appliance holds a corresponding local list and includes a card reader. The system comprises a compact user-carried smart card including a microprocessor and a memory storing a master list. The master list is configured for synchronizing with each local list. The microprocessor is programmed to synchronize the master list with a local list on a remote appliance when the smart card is engaged with the remote appliance card reader to allow the user to carry the smart card with the master list stored in the smart card memory to various remote appliances, and synchronize the master list with the various local lists of the appliances. Advantageously, the smart card acts as a token for holding the master list for various local lists kept on various devices.

Specifically, claim 1 recites, in combination with other features, that the system comprises "a compact user-carried smart card . . .". The smart card is further limited with the recitation of various structures and functions associated with the smart card. However, it is critical that the main element of the system is, as recited by claim 1, "a compact user-carried smart card." A smart card is a specific structure having a specific meaning to one of ordinary skill in the art. More specifically, a smart card has the physical form factor of a card (for example, the same form factor as a debit card or credit card), and includes a microprocessor and a memory. In accordance with the present invention as recited by claim 1, a smart card includes the normal structure of a smart card, that is, a card form factor with a microprocessor and a memory, and further has several other limiting features as defined by claim 1.

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 as anticipated by Weiser. Weiser does describe a personal storage device for application and data transfer. However, in Weiser, the personal storage device is exemplified by personal storage device 30 in Figure 1. Device 30 is not a smart card. Device 30 is a personal storage device but there is no suggestion that the device may take the form of a smart card, and there is no illustration of any device having the

physical form factor of a smart card. In Weiser, column 1, line 61 through column 2, line 2 teaches away from the use of smart cards.

As such, Weiser does not anticipate claim 1 because the personal storage device of Weiser does not include the claimed feature of a compact user-carried smart card. The Examiner states that the personal storage device of Weiser serves as a smart card. Applicant disagrees, the personal storage device of Weiser is not a smart card, and as shown, does not even take the physical form factor of a smart card. Weiser does mention smart cards in the background at column 1, line 61 through column 2, line 2, but there is no suggestion that the smart card described in the background device can be used together with embodiments of the Weiser invention. Quite to the contrary, the background art of Weiser teaches away from the smart card. In summary, there is no suggestion of the specific combination recited by claim 1 and applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Claim 11 is an independent claim and is believed to be patentable for similar reasons as given above with respect to claim 1. Claim 22 is an independent claim is also believed to be patentable for similar reasons as given above with respect to claim 1. The remaining claims are dependent claims and are believed to be patentable for their dependency.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejections and allow the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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